



EXCITING
NEWS!

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AUG.

GIGANTIC CONTEST!
50000 PRIZES

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COMICS
CODE



AUTHORITY

10¢

BATMAN

Featuring
**"The
GREAT
BAT-CAPE
HUNT!"**

ROBIN, THAT
CAPE THE WIND
RIPPED OFF CAME
FROM OUR TROPHY
ROOM!

COLLY, BATMAN!
THEN WE'VE GOT TO
GET IT BACK! IT'S THE
ONE THAT CONTAINS A
CLUE TO YOUR SECRET
IDENTITY!



BOYS! GIRLS! LADIES! MEN! GIVEN! GIVEN!

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**PREMIUMS or
CASH**



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THE
FIRST!



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NOW!



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LIVE PONY FOR
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Paste coupon on postal card or mail in envelope today

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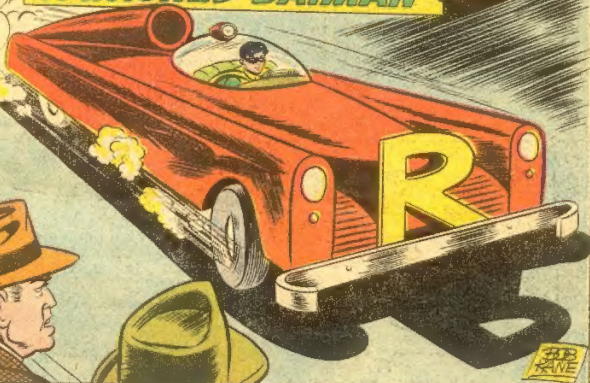
BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

A GREAT MYSTERY BURSTS UPON GOTHAM CITY WHEN ITS MOST FAMOUS CITIZEN **DISAPPEARS**. YES, **BATMAN** HAS DROPPED OUT OF SIGHT AS THOUGH HE NEVER EXISTED... AND WITH A VAST CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY MENACING THE METROPOLIS, ALL GOTHAM CITY IS ALARMED AND PUZZLED BY THE RIDDLE OF... **THE**

VANISHED BATMAN

THERE GOES **ROBIN**, ON ANOTHER MISSION! BUT... WHAT'S HAPPENED TO **BATMAN**?



UP INTO THE SKY OVER GOTHAM CITY FLASHES A FAMILIAR SILHOUETTE...



BUT WAIT... THIS IS **NOT** THE SIGNAL WHICH EVERYBODY KNOWS, BUT A NEW ONE!



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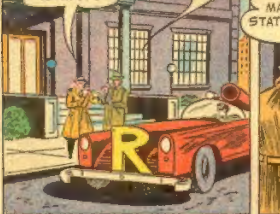


BATMAN



AND RACING TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS, IN ANSWER TO THE SIGNAL, COMES AN EQUALLY UNFAMILIAR SIGHT...

IT'S NOT THE **BATMOBILE**-- BUT-- WHERE'S **BATMAN**? IT'S A **ROBINMOBILE**! AND ONLY **ROBIN** IS IN IT!



POLICE REPORTERS ASK THE SAME QUESTION AS THE **BOY WONDER** ARRIVES AT HEADQUARTERS...

SOME-THING'S HAPPENED TO **BATMAN**... OTHERWISE **ROBIN** WOULDN'T BE WORKING ALL ON HIS OWN NOW!



AND IN COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...

I'VE HAD TO OPERATE BY MYSELF BEFORE, BUT THESE ARE THE TWO SWINDLERS WE'RE AFTER, **ROBIN**! THINK YOU CAN HANDLE THEM ALONE? COMMISSIONER-- THOUGH THINGS ARE NEVER THE SAME WITHOUT **BATMAN**!



AND AS **ROBIN** TAKES OFF IN GRIM SOLITARY SEARCH...

YES-- AND THE POLICE WON'T ANNOUNCE THAT, FOR FEAR IT'LL START A CRIME WAVE! THERE HE GOES-- ALONE! I GUESS **BATMAN** MUST HAVE MET HIS END SOMEHOW!



INDEED, AT LEAST TWO LAWBREAKERS ARE ALREADY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION.

WITH **BATMAN** GONE, WE CAN EASILY SLIP OUT OF TOWN! BUT LOOK... THERE'S THE **ROBINMOBILE** AFTER US! SO WHAT? THAT BRAT'S ALONE NOW... HE CAN'T DO ONE OF HIS JUMPS FROM CAR TO CAR! EVENTUALLY, HE'LL HAVE TO GIVE UP THE CHASE!



BUT **ROBIN** HAS OTHER IDEAS!...

I FIGURED I MIGHT NEED THOSE GRABBING-TONGS, AND I WAS RIGHT! ONCE I HOOK ONTO THEIR CAR, I CAN BRAKE US BOTH TO A STOP! HUH--? W--WE'RE SLOWING DOWN!



AND AS THE SCARED SWINDLERS ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE.

WHILE I DON'T HAVE **BATMAN** WITH ME, I STILL REMEMBER ALL HE TAUGHT ME!





BATMAN



IN THE HOURS THAT FOLLOW, THE BOY WONDER CONTINUES TO MAKE LONE APPEARANCES WHEREVER EMERGENCIES ARISE...

BATMAN GONE FOR GOOD? EVERYWHERE, PEOPLE FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE...

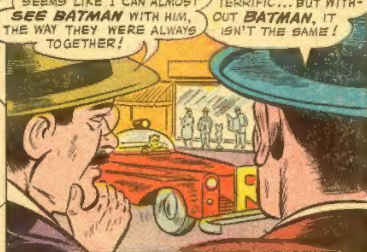
SEEMS LIKE I CAN ALMOST SEE BATMAN WITH HIM, THE WAY THEY WERE ALWAYS TOGETHER!

YES-- ROBIN'S TERRIFIC... BUT WITHOUT BATMAN, IT ISN'T THE SAME!



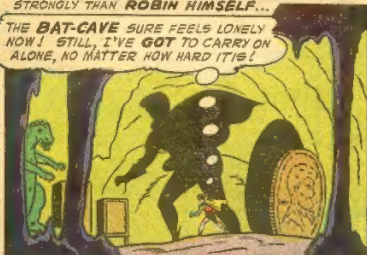
TERRIFIC... HE'S USING A ROBIN-PLANE TO SPRAY CHEMICALS ON THAT TOWER FIRE!

BUT BATMAN MUST BE GONE FOR GOOD! WHY ELSE WOULD ROBIN CHANGE EVERYTHING FROM THE BAT TO THE ROBIN EMBLEM?



AND OF COURSE, NO ONE FEELS THE LOSS MORE STRONGLY THAN ROBIN HIMSELF...

THE BAT-CAVE SURE FEELS LONELY NOW! STILL, I'VE GOT TO CARRY ON ALONE, NO MATTER HOW HARD IT IS!



BUT TO PACK PURDY, IN GOTHAM CITY'S UNDERWORLD, THE PASSING OF BATMAN BRINGS NO DISMAY...

BATMAN'S GONE, ALL RIGHT-- AND WE TWO ARE THE ONLY ONES IN THE WORLD WHO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM, VAIR!

NOW WE CAN BE SURE HE WON'T INTERFERE WITH OUR PLANS!

YOU BET! WE PUT BATMAN OUT OF THE WAY FOR GOOD, BOSS!



DO THESE MEN ALONE KNOW THE TRUE FATE OF BATMAN?

IT CERTAINLY SEEMS THAT WAY, AS A FAMED TELEVISION COMMENTATOR VOICES THE THOUGHTS OF MANY...

BATMAN BELONGED TO ALL OF US! IF HE IS GONE NOW--IF THE CITY HE WATCHED OVER SO LONG MUST DO WITHOUT HIM... IT'S TIME WE KNEW! FOR HE WAS OUR GREATEST CITIZEN...

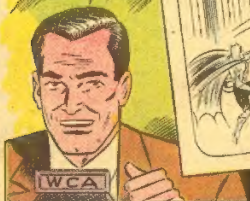




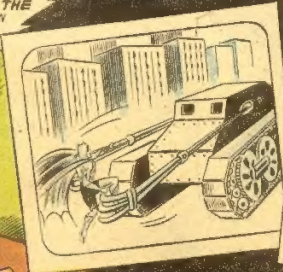
BATMAN



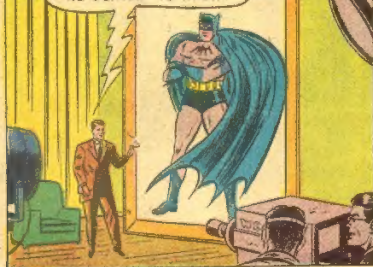
...THE MAN WHO STOPPED
THE MACHINES OF THE
CRIMESMITH WHEN
THEY THREATENED
GOTHAM CITY!



...THE MAN WHO WARDED OFF DANGER,
FROM WHATEVER DIRECTION IT
STRUCK AT US!



...AND NOW THIS MAN HAS VANISHED! WHERE
IS HE? AS CITIZENS OF GOTHAM CITY,
WE DEMAND TO KNOW!



BUT BATMAN'S TWO BEST FRIENDS MAINTAIN
AN UNBREAKABLE SILENCE...

I KNOW-- BUT
WE CAN'T HELP
IT, COMMISSIONER!
I'VE GOT TO
CARRY ON ALONE...

BATMAN'S SAFETY
DEPENDS ON IT!



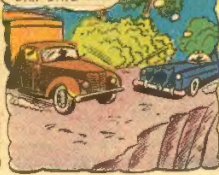
AND ROBIN'S THOUGHTS SWEEP
BACK TO A FEW DAYS AGO, WHEN
BATMAN WENT ON A FATEFUL
MISSION ALONE...

YES, THROUGH
COMMISSIONER
GORDON, THIS
MILLIONAIRE
COLLECTOR
SENT A MESSAGE
THAT HE WANTS
TO SEE ME ALONE!
HIS ESTATE'S OUT
ON CLIFF
ROAD!

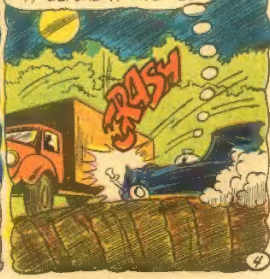


LATER, AS BATMAN DROVE
ALONG THE CLIFF HIGHWAY...

THAT TRUCK-- DARTING OUT TO
PUSH ME OVER THE CLIFF!
IT'S AN AMBUSH--AND
ONLY THE POWER AND
WEIGHT OF THE
BATMOBILE
CAN SAVE ME!



MY ONLY CHANCE-- TO HIT
IT BEFORE IT HITS ME!



IN THAT TRUCK, BATMAN FOUND A FAMILIAR FACE...

YOU'RE JOHN VAIR, ONE OF PACK PURDY'S MOBSTERS! DID HE SEND A DECOY MESSAGE TO BAIT ME INTO THIS AMBUSH?

YES-- AND I WAS TO KNOCK YOU INTO THE SEA! PURDY WANTED YOU OUT OF THE WAY SO HE COULD PULL A BIG JOB!

WHAT JOB, VAIR? WHAT'S PURDY PLANNING?

I-- I DON'T KNOW YET! HE WON'T TELL ANYONE TILL HE'S READY FOR IT! BUT-- HE'S SENT TO OTHER TOWNS FOR MOBSTERS TO COME AND HELP ON IT!



LATER, AFTER VAIR WAS IMPRISONED...

VAIR TOLD ME THAT PURDY'S HIDEOUT IS A WATERFRONT WAREHOUSE-- BUT I DON'T WANT TO ARREST HIM UNTIL I CAN GET THE OTHERS WHO ARE COMING FOR THIS MYSTERIOUS JOB!

HOW DO YOU PLAN TO DO IT, BATMAN?



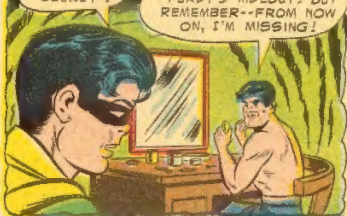
I'LL DISGUISE MYSELF AND TAKE VAIR'S PLACE-- AND WAIT TILL THE OTHERS COME! BUT IT MUST SEEM THAT VAIR SUCCEEDED IN GETTING RID OF ME-- SO YOU'LL HAVE TO CARRY ON ALONE!



THE MIRACULOUS MAKE-UP SKILL OF BATMAN SOON TRANSFORMED HIM...

YOU SAY COMMISSIONER GORDON IS KEEPING VAIR'S ARREST A SECRET?

YES--AND AS VAIR, I'LL TAKE THAT TRUCK BACK TO PURDY'S HIDEOUT! BUT REMEMBER--FROM NOW ON, I'M MISSING!



PRESENTLY, AS THE DISGUISED BATMAN REPORTED TO HIS "CHIEF"...

YEP-- I PUSHED BATMAN INTO THE SEA, PURDY!

GOOD... BUT I'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE HE'S REALLY GONE BEFORE I CARRY OUT MY BIG PLAN!



BUT WHAT IS THE BIG JOB, BOSS? CAN'T YOU TELL ME YET?

NO... YOU'LL FIND OUT WHEN THE OTHERS COME! BUT IT'S PLENTY BIG-- AND IF **BATMAN'S** REALLY DISPOSED OF, WE'LL ACT FAST!



WITHIN HOURS, PURDY HAD ALL THE "PROOF" HE NEEDED... HA, HA... **ROBIN'S** ON HIS OWN NOW, IN A NEW **ROBINMOBILE!** HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO **BATMAN**-- BUT WE DO!

ROBIN'S PLAYING HIS PART WELL, AND PURDY'S CONVINCED! WHEN THE OTHER MOBSTERS ARRIVE, I'LL FIND OUT WHAT'S PLANNED!



AND NOW, AS LAWBREAKERS FROM THE OTHER CITIES ARRIVE...

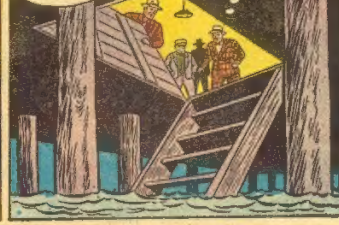
WHEN WE READ ABOUT **BATMAN** DISAPPEARING, WE FIGURED YOUR BIG JOB WOULD BE A CINC! WHAT IS IT, PURDY?

YOU'LL FIND OUT-- BUT FIRST, YOU'VE GOT TO PASS A TEST...



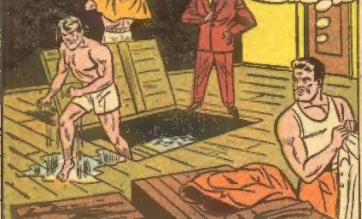
ON THIS JOB, YOU MUST BE ABLE TO SWIM UNDERWATER! IF YOU CAN, YOU'LL SHARE IN A \$5,000,000 LOOT!

A SWIMMING TEST? AND \$5,000,000? NOW I KNOW WHAT HE'S PLANNING!



BUT AS THE TEST PROCEEDS... GOOD! NOW YOU NEXT, VAIR!

MY MAKEUP WILL WASH BADLY UNDER-WATER! ONLY ONE WAY OUT OF THIS...



INTO THE WATER DIVES "VAIR," ONLY TO DISCOVER... HEY, I CAN'T SWIM WELL ENOUGH! I'M GOING DOWN-- ULP...

GET DOWN THERE AND PULL HIM OUT!



BUT A FEW MINUTES LATER...

WE COULDN'T FIND VAIR-- HE'S SUNK AND GONE!

WELL... WE COULDN'T HAVE USED A POOR SWIMMER ANYWAY! C'MON -- WE'LL GET READY FOR THE JOB...

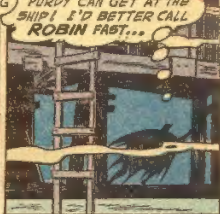
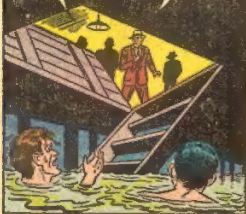
UPON OPENING A BIG SAFE...

FROGMEN OUTFITS-- AND AN UNDERWATER CUTTING-TORCH!

RIGHT... WE'RE PULLING THE FIRST FROGMAN ROBBERY IN HISTORY! THERE'S \$5,000,000 IN THE HOLD OF THE DOCKED SHIP **NATONIC**-- AND WE'RE GETTING IT!

MEANWHILE, WHERE A "DROWNED" MOBSTER HAS BECOME A LIVE BATMAN...

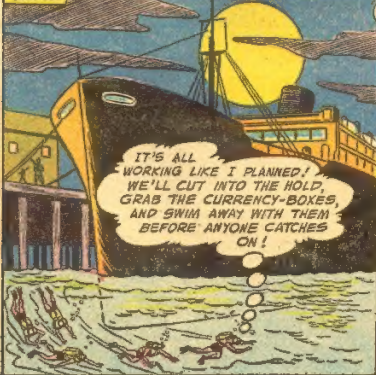
\$5,000,000 IS THE AMOUNT BEING SHIPPED ABOARD THE **NATONIC**! SINCE ITS PIER IS GUARDED THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY PURDY CAN GET AT THE SHIP! I'D BETTER CALL **ROBIN** FAST...



SOON, FROM UNDER THE WAREHOUSE, COMES THE STRANGEST THIEVES' FORAY OF ALL TIME...



SILENTLY, UNSEEN, THEY SWIM TOWARD A GUARDED SHIP...



IT'S ALL WORKING LIKE I PLANNED! WE'LL CUT INTO THE HOLD, GRAB THE CURRENCY-BOXES, AND SWIM AWAY WITH THEM BEFORE ANYONE CATCHES ON!

BUT SUDDENLY, FROM ABOVE...

WHAT?... A NET! WE'RE CAUGHT LIKE FISH!

OH, OH... THEY WERE WISE TO US! BETTER GET OUT OF HERE-- FAST!





BATMAN



MOMENTS LATER, ON THE SHIP'S DECK...

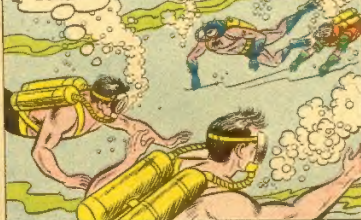
A FINE CATCH OF FRESH CROOKS. **BATMAN!**

BUT PURDY AND ONE OF THE OTHERS AREN'T IN IT! QUICK--GET OUT OUR OWN FROGMEN SUITS...



WITHIN SECONDS, THE CHASE IS ON!...

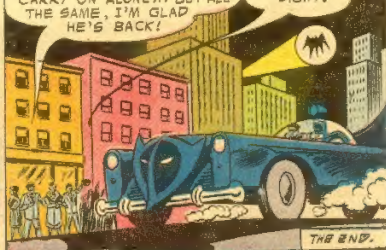
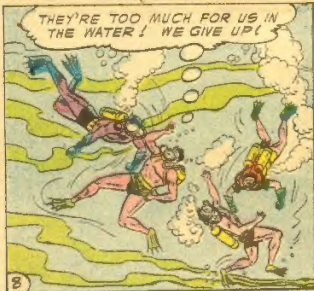
BATMAN WITH ROBIN?
BUT--IT CAN'T BE!
BATMAN'S GONE...



AND SO, LATER, WHEN AGAIN A FAMILIAR SIGN FLARES IN THE SKY...

YES, **BATMAN** EXPLAINED WHY HE HAD TO LET **ROBIN** CARRY ON ALONE... BUT ALL THE SAME, I'M GLAD HE'S BACK!

YESSIR, THE **BAT-SIGNAL** IS A WELCOME SIGHT!



THE END.

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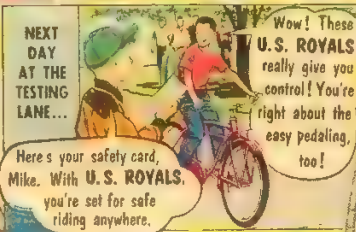
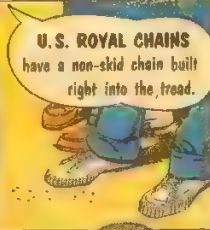
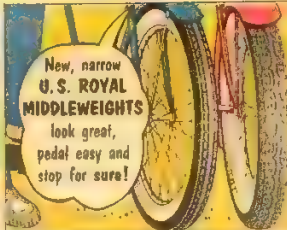
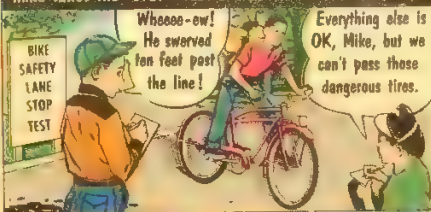
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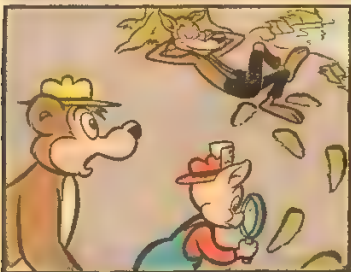
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PETER PORKCHOPS

solves

"The Case of the CARELESS CAMPER!"





BATMAN



BATMAN

ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

NEVER BEFORE HAS THE WORLD SEEN SUCH AN ODD ASSORTMENT OF MAN-HUNTERS-- EACH AN EXPERT IN HIS OWN RIGHT, BUT ALL AS FAR REMOVED FROM THE LAW AS ANY MAN ON THE STREET! NOW, THEN, DO THEY BECOME ALLIES OF BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE WORLD'S GREATEST LAWMEN? YOU'LL LEARN THE STARTLING ANSWER WHEN YOU READ THIS TALE OF...

THE SIX STRANGEST SLEUTHS



SELDOM CAN WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON--WHO ARE SECRETLY **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**--RELAX FOR AN EYENING..

THIS SHOW SEEMS TO BE A BIG SUCCESS, BRUCE!

IT SHOULD BE, DICK! AFTER ALL, IT FEATURES SOME OF THE BIGGEST VAUDEVILLE STARS!

BUT THIS STAR-STUDDED SHOW HAS ALSO DRAWN SOME UNWANTED SPECTATORS...

THE AUDIENCE PAID A BIG PRICE TO SEE THIS BENEFIT SHOW!

YEAH... BUT THEY DON'T KNOW IT'S ALL GONNA BE FOR **OUR** BENEFIT... HA, HA!





BATMAN



INSIDE, MEANWHILE, AS THE SHOW COMMENCES

SCORTINI, THE MAGICIAN, IS REALLY TOPS! THAT VANISHING-GIRL ACT IS CLEVER!

VICTOR VOCE, THE VENTRILQUIST, AND THE OTHER BIG STARS OUGHT TO BE JUST AS GOOD!

BUT SUDDENLY

EEK! LOOK OUT!

SCORTINI'S PROPS COME IN HANDY FOR STARTING A PANIC!

YEAH...AND THEY'LL ALSO HELP US PULL OFF SOME REAL MAGIC-- MAKING MONEY DISAPPEAR!



HELP! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

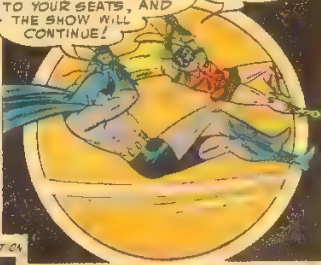
DICK, THOSE CROOKS HAVE STAMPEDED THE AUDIENCE! WE'VE GOT TO SWITCH FOR ACT ON FAST!



IN THE CONCEALMENT OF THE BOX, A SWIFT CHANGE OF COSTUME--AND... MOMENTS LATER...

THERE'S NO CAUSE FOR ALARM, FOLKS! RETURN TO YOUR SEATS, AND THE SHOW WILL CONTINUE!

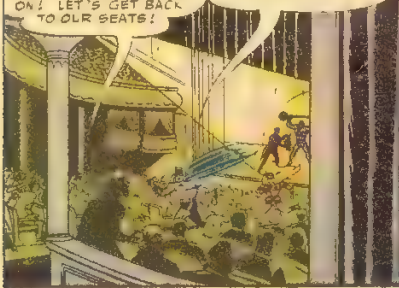
HERE COME THE STARS NOW!



AND AS THE PERFORMERS, TRUE TO THEATRICAL TRADITION, HELP QUELL THE PANIC...

LOOK--THE SHOW'S GOING ON! LET'S GET BACK TO OUR SEATS!

THOSE CROOKS WENT THIS WAY, ROBIN!



BUT AT THE BOX-OFFICE...

THOSE MASKED THIEVES TOOK ALL THE RECEIPTS AND GOT AWAY, BATMAN!

THEY USED SCORTINI'S MAGIC PROPS TO COVER THEIR ROBBERY BY CREATING A PANIC-- AND IT WORKED!



LATER, AS MOB LEADER JAY JANDRON DIVIDES THE LOOT IN HIS HIDEOUT...

HERE ARE YOUR SHARES OF THE HUNDRED GRAND! LAY LOW NOW, AND DON'T CONTACT ME!

SURE THING, BOSS. NO ONE'LL BE ABLE TO TRACK US DOWN!

BUT WHEN THE ENTERTAINERS HEAR THE DISASTROUS NEWS...

THE WHOLE \$100,000 GONE... AND THAT MONEY MEANT SO MUCH TO THE RELIEF FUND!

THEY WON'T GET AWAY WITH IT! WE'LL HELP YOU CATCH THEM AND RECOVER THE MONEY, **BATMAN!**

ONE CLUE SHOWS THOSE THIEVES INCLUDED A MAN WITH THEATER EXPERIENCE--SO MAYBE YOU PEOPLE CAN HELP ME IN THIS CASE!

MY MAGIC, ELMO'S QUICK-CHANGE IMPERSONATION SKILL, AND LEO THE MIGHTY'S STRENGTH, MIGHT HELP!

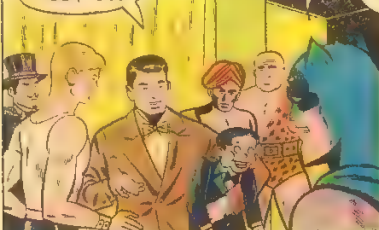


AND MY VENTRILLOQUISTIC SKILL, CAREY'S ABILITY AS A TIGHT-WIRE WALKER, AND THE INC. A RUBBER MAN'S TRICKS SHOULD HELP, TOO!

SWELL! YOU'RE ALL ENLISTED AS MY ASS STANTS RIGHT NOW!

NOW HERE'S THAT CLUE ONE OF THOSE THIEVES KNEW HOW TO USE YOUR COMPLICATED MAGIC-PROPS TO CREATE PANIC, SCORTINI, SO HE MUST HAVE HAD MAGIC-ACT EXPERIENCE!

WELL--THERE'S NOT A MAGICIAN IN GOTHAM CITY WHO I DON'T KNOW!



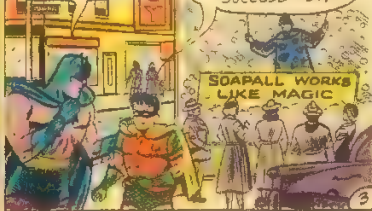
AND AFTER SCORTINI HAS COMPILED A LIST OF THOSE MAGICIANS...

EACH OF YOU CAN CHECK SOME OF THE SUSPECTS... THEY'RE ALL MEN WITH MAGIC-ACT EXPERIENCE! **ROBIN** GOT THESE SPARE BELT-RADIOS FROM THE BAT-CAVE FOR YOU... YOU CAN CALL ME WITH THEM INSTANTLY!

SOON AFTER, WITH THE SEARCH IN HIGH GEAR...

THAT EX-MAGICIAN WAS DEMONSTRATING IN THIS WINDOW WHEN THE ROBBERY OCCURRED--SO HE'S CLEAR!

ALL OUR SUSPECTS HAVE ALIBIS--AND NONE OF THE SIX STAGE-SLEUTHS HAVE REPORTED ANY SUCCESS YET!

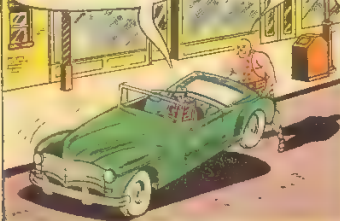




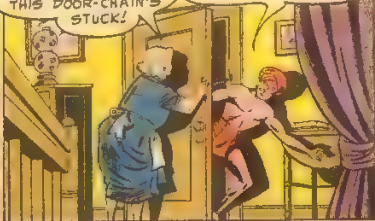
BATMAN



IN THE MEANTIME, THE STRONGMAN HALTS SUSPECTS IN HIS OWN UNIQUE WAY...
HEY-- WHAT'S HOLDING THE CAR BACK?
I AM! I WANT TO QUESTION YOU!



AND THE INDIA RUBBER MAN FINDS GOOD USE FOR HIS CONTORTIONIST TALENTS...
ON, THAT'S ALL RIGHT... I'LL JUST SQUEEZE IN THIS WAY!
YES, YOU CAN SEE MY BOARDER, BUT-- BUT THIS DOOR-CHAIN'S STUCK!



BUT AS VICTOR VOICE, THE VENTRILOQUIST, QUESTIONS ONE OF HIS SUSPECTS...

I'VE BEEN HERE SINCE FIVE O'CLOCK-- AND I DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS! GET OUT!

HE'S LYING! THAT GOTHAM CITY NEWS IN HIS HAND.. IT'S THE SEVEN O'CLOCK EDITION--SO HE MUST HAVE GONE OUT! I'M GOING TO CALL BATMAN ABOUT THIS!



PRESENTLY, WHEN ALL THE MANHUNTERS RE-CONVENE AND HEAR THE STORY... / ...SO THIS VERN SHIVELY LIED ABOUT BEING OUT!

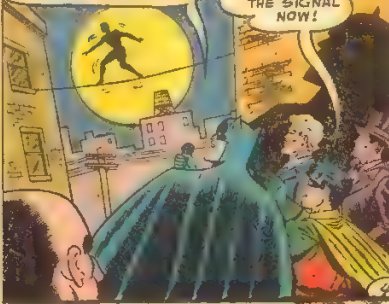
THAT MAKES HIM A DEFINITE SUSPECT! NOW, IF HE IS ONE OF THE ROBBERS, WE'VE GOT TO MAKE HIM LEAD US TO HIS CROWIES --AND I KNOW JUST HOW TO DO THAT!



DOWN BELOW, AFTER THE WIRE HAS BEEN ATTACHED.

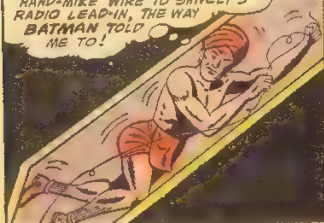
OUR TIGHT-WIRE EXPERT CAN WATCH UNSEEN AND TELL US WHEN SHIVELY TURNS ON HIS RADIO!

HE'S BOUND TO LISTEN OFTEN FOR NEWS OF THE ROBBERY... IN FACT, THERE'S THE SIGNAL NOW!



A LITTLE LATER...

GOOD THING I CAN SQUEEZE MY WAY UP THIS VENTILATOR PIPE! I'LL BE ABLE TO ATTACH THIS HAND-MIKE WIRE TO SHIVELY'S RADIO LEAD-IN, THE WAY BATMAN TOLD ME TO!





BATMAN



AS THE SUSPECT'S RADIO WENT UP...

...AND THERE IS NO TRACE OF THE \$212,000 STOLEN IN THE THEATER ROBBERY!

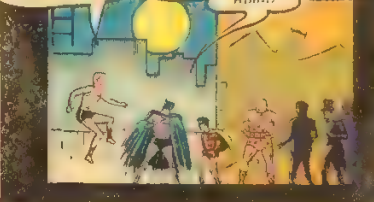
\$212,000! BUT THE BOSS SAID THERE WAS ONLY 100 GRAND! HE CHEATED US... I'M GOING TO SEE THE BOYS ABOUT THIS!



MINUTES LATER...

IT WORKED, BATMAN... HE'S LEAVING HIS APARTMENT!

I FIGURED THAT FAKE MESSAGE ABOUT THE MONEY WOULD ROUSE HIM... THERE'S NO TRUST AMONG THIEVES! ALL RIGHT-- LET'S FOLLOW HIM...



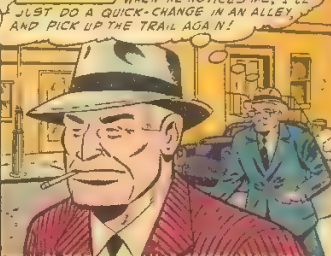
THROUGH THE MIDNIGHT STREETS OF GOTHAM CITY, THE MOST FANTASTIC CHASE IN HISTORY ENSUES...

HE'S COMING TO MORE CROWDED STREETS... WE MAY BE SPOTTED FOLLOWING HIM!

I'LL SIGNAL FORBES, THE QUICK-CHANGE ARTIST, TO TAKE OVER!



THE MAN OF MANY FACES IS PERFECT FOR THE JOB... WHEN HE NOTICES ME, I'LL JUST DO A QUICK-CHANGE IN AN ALLEY, AND PICK UP THE TRAIL AGAIN!



SOON, OUTSIDE A DINGY ROOMING HOUSE...

THAT'S THE ONLY LIGHT IN THE PLACE... SHIVELY AND HIS PAIS MUST BE UP THERE!

LET'S BE SURE WE HAVE ALL OF THEM, AND ALL THE MONEY, BEFORE WE BURST IN!

EVEN THE DARK, EMPTY REACHES OF GOTHAM PARK OFFER NO CONCEALMENT...

SHIVELY MUST BE GOING STRAIGHT ACROSS THE PARK!

THANKS TO OUR WIRE-WALKING LOOKOUT, WE CAN ENCIRCLE HIM OUT OF SIGHT!





BATMAN

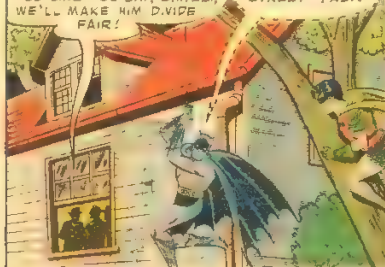


AND THE SUPREME ACROBATIC STARS OF THIS
DETECTIVE TROUPE GO INTO ACTION...

ROBIN...

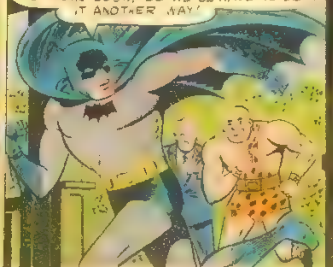
IF THE BOSS HELD OUT ON
US LIKE YOU SAY, SHVELY,
WE'LL MAKE HIM D.V.I.D.E.
FAIR!

DOWN TO THE
STREET--FAST!



BACK ON THE SIDEWALK...

LEO AND YOU, FORBES--COME WITH ME
FAST! WE CAN'T FOLLOW THEM OPENLY
TO THEIR BOSS, SO WE'LL HAVE TO DO
IT ANOTHER WAY!



SHORTLY AS THREE MOBSTER-
DEPART MIGHTY ARMS REACH
OUT SLENTLY.

MMFFF



NICE GOING, LEO! NOW,
FORBES, TAKE SHVELY'S
PLACE--AND USE THE
BELT-RADIO TO TELL
US WHICH WAY THEY
GO!

CHECK!



WITHIN A FEW SECONDS...

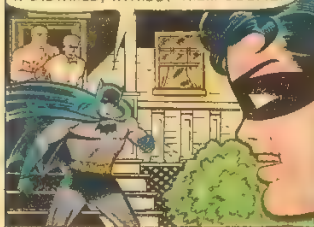
COME ON, SHVELY--WHAT'RE
YOU LAGGING FOR?

I--ER--HAD
TO TIE MY
SHOE!



AND AS THE CROOKS' CAR SPEEDS AWAY...

ROBIN, GET THE BATMOBILE FAST!
WE'LL TURN THIS MAN OVER TO THE
POLICE--AND WHEN FORBES CALLS,
WE CAN FOLLOW THE OTHERS AT
A DISTANCE, WITHOUT THEM SEEING!



LATER, MILES AWAY...

THAT'S WHERE THEY'RE
BUILDING THE NEW WEST
BRIDGE THE RIVETING WILL KEEP THESE
TWO FROM HEARING MY VOICE AS I CALL
BATMAN!





BATMAN



AND WHERE THE LAWMEN WAIT IN THE
BATMOBILE.

SHH... THAT'S FORBES
WHISPERING ON HIS
BELT-RADIO!

BATMAN,
WE'RE
GOING OUT
NORTH TO...
OH!

SOMETHING'S
WRONG!

IN THE REAR-VIEW
MIRROR, I SAW HIM
STARTIN' TO WHISPER
INTO A LITTLE
RADIO!

WE COULDN'T HAVE HAD TIME
TO SAY MUCH... WE'LL TELL
THE BOSS ABOUT IT!



WHILE FAR BEHIND...

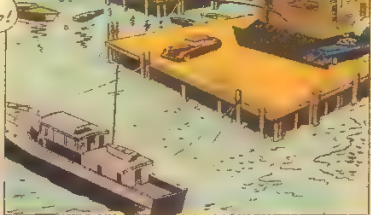
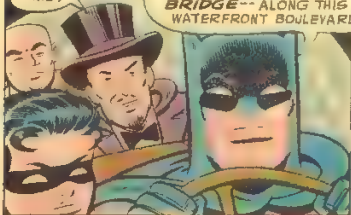
HOW DO YOU KNOW
WHICH WAY TO GO,
BATMAN? FORBES'
MESSAGE MEANT
NOTHING TO
ME!

WE SAID THEY WERE
GOING NORTH-- AND I
HEARD HEAVY RIVETING
SOUNDS! THE ONLY
RIVETING GOING ON
AT NIGHT IS THE NEW
RUSH-JOB ON WEST
BRIDGE-- ALONG THIS
WATERFRONT BOULEVARD!

SURE ENOUGH, AT ONE OF THE PIER

THAT'S THEIR
CAR THEIR
LEADER'S HIDEOUT
MUST BE IN THAT
MOORED YACHT!

WITH FORBES POSSIBLY IN
DANGER, WE'LL HAVE TO
GET ON BOARD FAST--
BUT QUIETLY!



I CAN REACH IT
QUICKLY BY WALKING
THE MOORING-CABLE!

ROBIN AND I
CAN FOLLOW
YOU HAND-OVER-
HAND!

AFTER THOSE FIRST THREE QUIETLY BOARD THE YACHT

IT'LL TAKE US A LITTLE LONGER BUT
I CAN PULL THE BOAT TO US WHILE
BATMAN'S SEARCHING IT!



MEANWHILE, IN THE GANG CHIEF'S CABIN...

YOU FOOLS! NO WONDER HE WAS WHISPERING INTO THAT MIKE! THIS MAN ISN'T SHIVELY... HE'S FORBES, THE FAMOUS IMPERSONATOR!



RIGHT, JANDRON... AND HE LED US RIGHT TO YOUR L.A.R!

BATMAN AND ROBIN! SHOOT 'EM DOWN... THEY CAN'T FIGHT US ALL!



BUT AT THAT INSTANT...

DROP THAT GUN!

HUH-?

THANKS FOR THROWING YOUR VOICE, VICTOR!



PRESTO-- AND YOU'RE TRAPPED!

BUT THEIR BOSS IS MAKING A BREAK FOR IT!



OUTSIDE, HOWEVER...

I SAW HIM FIRST!

BUT HE DIDN'T SEE ME FIRST, IN THIS FUNNEL.

EYOW!

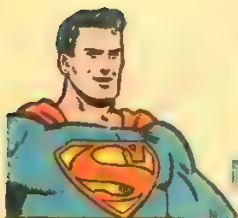


AND SO AN HOUR LATER, AT POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS...

DON'T THANK ME, COMMISSIONER... AND YOU RECOVERED THE MONEY FOR THE RELIEF FUND, TOO? GOOD WORK, BATMAN!

THANK THE SIX "SLEUTHS" WHOSE HELP I COULDN'T HAVE DONE WITHOUT!





**Boys and Girls! Here's the news
You've been waiting for—**

5000 TERRIFIC PRIZES!

**a contest that's FUN,
EXCITING, and EASY to enter!**



**ALL YOU HAVE TO DO TO WIN ONE
OF THESE BIG PRIZES IS WHO
IN A SLOGAN FOR DC MAGAZINE!**

HERE ARE SOME IDEAS TO GET YOU GOING:

(I buy when I see DC)

(DC comics are Decent Comics)

(Your reading Key is the symbol DC)

**Start thinking now—Your SLOGAN could win you a
Columbia BIKE, SKATES, GAMES, DOLLS and
a host of other TERRIFIC PRIZES.**



**CONTEST BLANKS—Pictures of Prizes—
and FULL DETAILS will appear in all DC
comics magazines dated SEPT.**



**Be sure to get the
NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE
of any DC comics magazine.**



**THIS IS YOUR BIG CHANCE
TO WIN SOME OF THE**

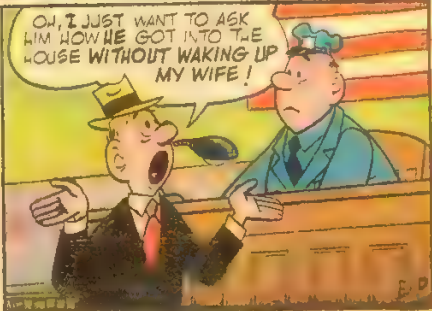
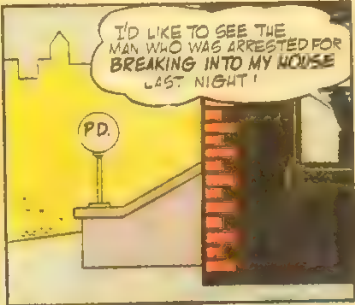
5000 PRIZES

in our GIGANTIC CONTEST

Don't Forget — Contest starts in September issues!

CASEY

THE COP



TWO-WHEELED LAWMEN



**The Motorcycle Officer's Job Requires a
High Degree of Courage and Daring**

THE thieves, making their getaway, headed their speedy car toward the main thoroughfare where the traffic was heaviest. Their object was clear—to prevent the pursuing police cars from catching up by getting as many passing automobiles between their car and the squad car as possible.

For a time, it looked as if their strategy would work. When the squad car turned onto the main thoroughfare, the grim-faced police officers found almost 30 other autos between them and their quarry.

At that moment, a police motorcycle raced past the squad car. Zig-zagging in and out of traffic, its siren screaming a shrill warning, the motorcycle overtook the getaway car in less than a minute.

Holding his left hand on the handle bars, the motorcycle policeman drew out his gun with the other. This sight was enough to force the getaway car out of traffic and along the curb.

This incident provides dramatic proof of the value of the motorcycle policeman in a big city.

Weighing close to a quarter of a ton, the modern motorcycle is capable of a speed exceeding 100 miles an hour. In some cases, the armored sidecar, providing a built-in machine gun, protects both the driver and the officer manning the gun.

The motorcycle policeman is the direct descendant of the policeman who once rode a bicycle. Before the advent of the automobile, the bicycle was the fastest thing on the city streets.

Police used the two-wheeler for two purposes. It was used in outpacing the horse-drawn vehicle then used by criminals as the automobile is today. It was also used to combat one of the great street perils of that period—the runaway horse. It must have been a thrilling sight to see a "wheel policeman," after a speedy sprint, hurl himself at the bridle of a frightened horse!

It was the arrival of the automobile, with its then high speed of 30 miles an hour, that took the policemen off bicycles and put them on motorcycles.

But the modern wheel-man does

not spend all of his time chasing thieves. With his highly maneuverable vehicle, he stands ready to help in any way possible. Typical is the incident which took place in New York City not long ago.

Hospital authorities in New Jersey one afternoon called the Department of Health in New York City to inform it that it needed a quantity of serum to save the life of a child. The Department of Health immediately notified a New York hospital, where the serum was stored, and police headquarters.

A motorcycle officer was instantly dispatched to obtain the waiting package of precious serum and deliver it to a waiting motorcycle officer in New Jersey.

Traffic was at its heaviest. The motorcycle roared through the crowded city streets, its open muffler drowning out all other noises except its own siren.

Driving with amazing skill, the lawman on wheels sped past parked cars and moving vehicles, leaving scarcely an inch to spare on either side.

Traffic policeman along the way, hearing his warning siren, directed traffic to one side. On and on sped the cyclist, through heavy traffic which had been stalled to allow him the right of way.

A child's life was at stake!

The two-wheeled vehicle snaked through the autos waiting to enter the tunnel under the Hudson River, and streaked into the tube without lessening its speed. Min-

utes later, it was across the river in New Jersey.

There, the precious parcel changed hands. The New York motorcyclist paused a moment as he watched his New Jersey brother speed off with a roar. Then he slowly turned his bike around for the homeward trip.

Exactly 19 minutes later, a grateful doctor injected the serum into his young patient. And that same night, a smiling New York motorcycle officer learned that the serum that he had raced to another state had saved a life!

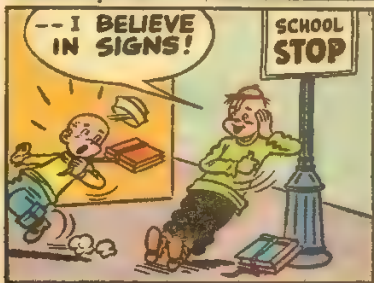
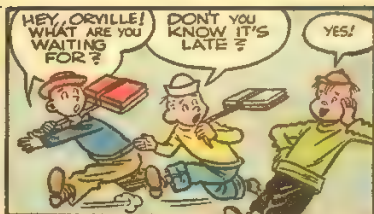
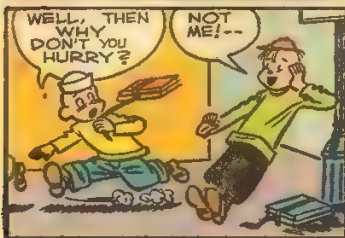
The motorcycle, because of its remarkable maneuverability, has been found useful in other ways. During heavy traffic hours, motorcycle policemen park their vehicles and take over the direction of traffic. When large crowds congregate for such outdoor events as parades, the job of keeping back the pressing crowd is shared by the patrolman on wheels with the patrolman on horse.

Although there is an element of danger in motorcycle duty, it is regarded by patrolmen as an exciting and glamorous branch of police duty. But the tests to applicants are severe.

Before a patrolman is even considered for wheel duty, he must pass mechanical and temperamental tests, as well as the usual stiff physical examination. For this is a job that requires a high degree of courage and daring—and only the finest are invited to join the "mile-a-minute" platoons of lawmen on wheels.

—Jack Miller

LITTLE ORVIL



HAVE FUN ALL SUMMER LONG!

Ask for **WINCHESTER**
Super Speed Roller Skates

Build fast! Double row of ball bearings. Free red dust caps on wheels... Free red ankle pads. Nickel plated. Built to last and last.

FREE!

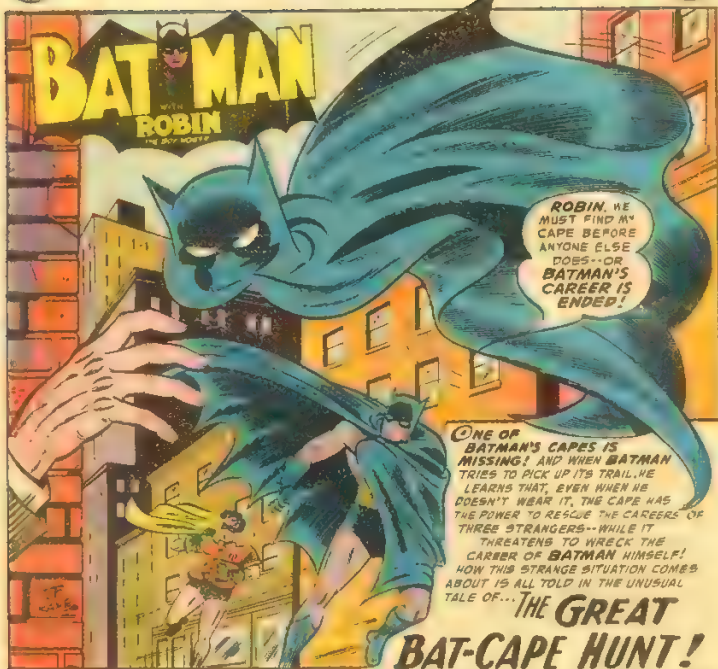
WRITE FOR THIS FREE "WINGS" WINCHESTER BOOKLET AND LEARN TO SKATE BETTER

JUST SEND A POSTCARD TO:
"WINGS" WINCHESTER,
WINCHESTER SKATES,
OLIN MATHIESON CHEMICAL CORP.
NEW HAVEN 4, CONN.

Be sure to write your name and full address on the other side of the postcard.

SEND TODAY!





ONE OF BATMAN'S CAPES IS MISSING! AND WHEN BATMAN TRIES TO PICK UP ITS TRAIL, HE LEARNS THAT, EVEN WHEN HE DOESN'T WEAR IT, THE CAPE HAS THE POWER TO RESCUE THE CAREERS OF THREE STRANGERS--WHILE IT THREATENS TO WRECK THE CAREER OF BATMAN HIMSELF! HOW THIS STRANGE SITUATION COMES ABOUT IS ALL TOLD IN THE UNUSUAL TALE OF...

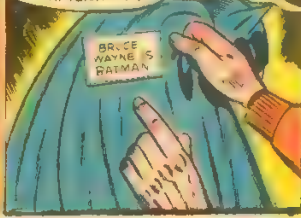
THE GREAT BAT-CAPE HUNT!

ONE DAY IN GOTHAM CITY AS SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD DICK GRAYSON, WITH THEIR BUTLER ALFRED, CLEAN THE BATCAVE'S TROPHY ROOM...

BE CAREFUL WITH THAT TROPHY, ALFRED! THAT'S A SOUVENIR FROM A VERY TRICKY CASE! REMEMBER IT, DICK?

SURE! THE MAN IN THAT CASE MAILED THAT CAPE TO YOU!

HE SENT IT WITH THAT MESSAGE STITCHED INSIDE THE COWL AS PROOF THAT HE FINALLY HAD UNCOVERED YOUR SECRET IDENTITY. IRONICALLY, HOWEVER, HE DIED SOON AFTERWARD!





BATMAN



SUDDENLY, ALARMING NEWS COMES OVER THE RADIO

HERE-- I HAVE YOUR UNIFORMS ALL READY FOR YOU!

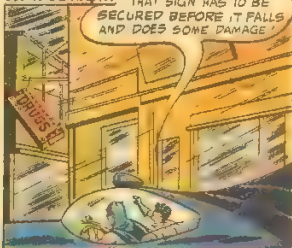
WE INTERRUPT Z. WE'D BETTER FOR A SPECIAL GO ON EMERGENCY BULLETIN! HURRICANE HANNAH HAS JUST STRUCK GOTHAM CITY!

PATROL, PICK! LOOTERS MIGHT TRY TO USE THE 'HURRICANE AS A COVERUP FOR CRIME!

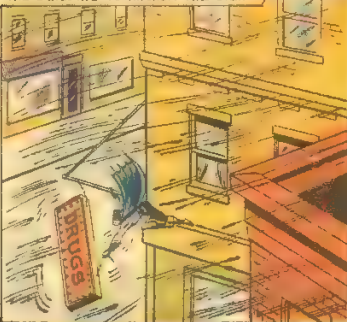


LATER, AS HURRICANE HANNAH BUFFETS THE C.T.Y. THE STREETS ARE NEARLY DESERTED BUT FOR THE CRUISING BATMOBILE...

THAT SIGN HAS TO BE SECURED BEFORE IT FALLS AND DOES SOME DAMAGE!

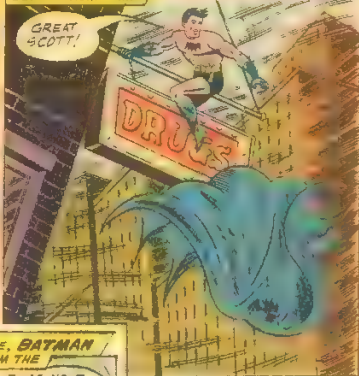


BATTLING THE RAGING STORM, BATMAN SCALES THE BUILDING TO ANCHOR THE SIGN.



SUDDENLY, A SAVAGE BLAST OF WIND RIPS THE CLOAK FROM HIM.

GREAT SCOTT!



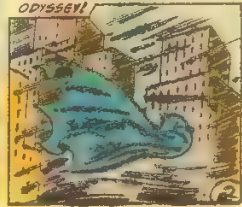
WRAPPING A HANDKERCHIEF ABOUT HIS UNMASKED FACE, BATMAN DESCENDS AS ROBIN GETS A SPARE CAPE FROM THE BATMOBILE... WHEN...

ALFRED CALLING BATMAN! S.R. IN MY HASTE, I GAVE YOU THE TROPHY CAPE!

GOSH! BATMAN, IT HAS YOUR SECRET IDENTITY ON THAT PAPER LABEL SEWED INSIDE THE COWL! I'VE GOT TO FIND THAT CAPE BEFORE SOMEONE ELSE DOES!



MEANWHILE, CARRIED BY THE WIND, THE TROPHY CAPE AND ITS VITAL SECRET BEGIN A STRANGE ODYSSEY!





BATMAN



LATER, THE STORM STARTS TO SUBSIDE-- BUT TO **BATMAN** THIS MEANS A GREATER THREAT TO HIS IDENTITY!

PEOPLE WILL BE COMING OUT TO THE STREETS AGAIN! SOMEONE ELSE IS BOUND TO STUMBLE ACROSS THE CAPE!

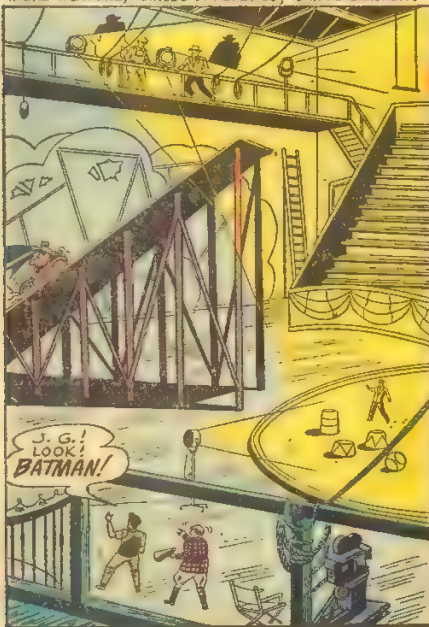
I'M SURE THE WIND CARRIED THE CLOAK IN THIS DIRECTION! WHERE CAN IT BE?

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, **BATMAN'S** CLOAK IS BLOWN IN THE PATH OF ONE VERY UNHAPPY FRENCHMAN, NEWLY ARRIVED IN AMERICA...

I, ANDRE PREVOT, AM ZE GREATEST STUNTMAN IN ALL FRANCE-- BUT HERE I AM A NOBODY! ZE MOVIE DIRECTORS WILL NOT HIRE ME FOR PICTURES!

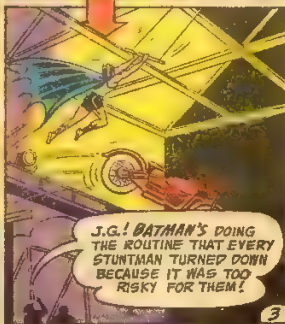
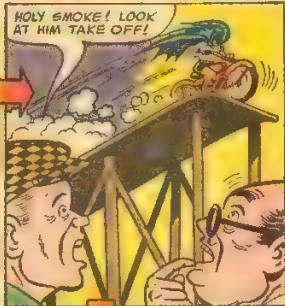
MON DIEU! A CLOAK-- SUCH AS ZE MAGNIFIQUE **BATMAN** WEARS! BUT OF COURSE IT COULD NOT BE HIS! ZE HURRICANE MUST HAVE BLOWN IT AWAY FROM A COSTUME STORE! HM--M! I WONDER...??

SOON AFTER, A CAPED FIGURE HURTTLES INTO THE STUDIO LOT WHERE THE MOVIE, "CIRCUS DAREDEVILS," IS IN REHEARSAL...



J. G.! LOOK! **BATMAN!**

HOLY SMOKE! LOOK AT HIM TAKE OFF!



J.G.! **BATMAN'S** DOING THE ROUTINE THAT EVERY STUNTMAN TURNED DOWN BECAUSE IT WAS TOO RISKY FOR THEM!



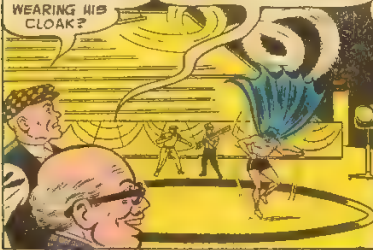
BATMAN



AWED EYES WATCH THE LITHE FIGURE AS HE PERFORMS INCREDIBLE ACROBATIC FEATS!

AMAZING, ER, J.G.? BUT HOW COME BATMAN'S ONLY WEARING HIS CLOAK?

THERE'S NO LAW THAT SAYS BATMAN'S GOT TO WEAR ALL OF HIS COSTUME ALL THE TIME!



UPON REACHING THE GROUND, THE CLOAKED FIGURE PULLS BACK HIS COWL TO REVEAL HIS IDENTITY!

IT IS I, ANDRE PREVOT! I USE ZIS RUSE TO MAKE SURE YOU WOULD WATCH ME PERFORM!

YOU--THE FRENCHMAN WHO'S BEEN PESTERING ME TO GIVE HIM THE STUNTMAN JOB! MISTER, AFTER WHAT I'VE SEEN-- YOU'RE HIRED!



AND SO, WITHOUT BATMAN WEARING IT, BATMAN'S CLOAK HAS HELPED A COURAGEOUS PERFORMER TO A NEW CAREER...

BUT, BATMAN'S OWN CAREER AS A CRIME-FIGHTER IS IN DANGER-- FOR, LATER...



WHAT IS ZIS? PAPER-- WITH WRITING ON IT!



AT THAT VERY INSTANT, AS WORRIED BATMAN AND ROBIN PASS A TV SHOP AND HEAR A NEWSCAST...

AT MAMMOTH STUDIOS, A FRENCHMAN NAMED ANDRE PREVOT GOT HIMSELF A STUNTMAN JOB BY WEARING A CLOAK LIKE BATMAN AND...

HEAR THAT, ROBIN? LET'S GO! MAYBE PREVOT HASN'T SEEN THAT PAPER INSIDE THE COWL YET!



BUT, UPON CONFRONTING PREVOT, BATMAN LEARNS HE IS TOO LATE!

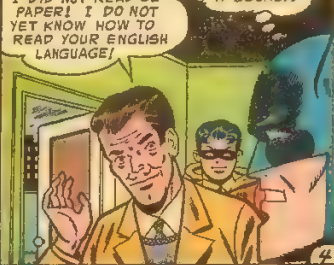
YES, BATMAN-- I DID SEE A PAPER INSIDE ZE COWL!

THEN HE KNOWS MY SECRET IDENTITY! THIS IS THE END OF ME AS BATMAN!



BUT, BATMAN, I MUST MAKE ZE CONFESSION! I DID NOT READ ZE PAPER! I DO NOT YET KNOW HOW TO READ YOUR ENGLISH LANGUAGE!

WHAT? THEN MY IDENTITY IS STILL A SECRET!





BATMAN



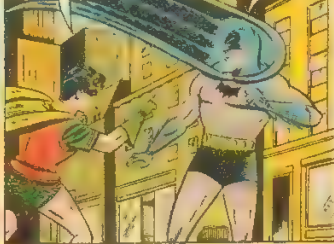
BUT BATMAN'S RELIEF TURNS TO QUICK DISMAY!

STRANGE! I PLACED ZE CLOAK ON ZE WINDOW-SILL FOR A MOMENT WHILE I TIED MY SHOELACES-- BUT NOW IT IS GONE!

(GROAN) OH, NO-O-DOO! THE WIND MUST HAVE BLOWN IT AWAY AGAIN! LET'S GO, **ROBIN!**

THE WIND'S BLOWING IN THAT DIRECTION!

THEN THAT'S THE DIRECTION HE'LL TAKE! MAYBE WE CAN STILL FIND IT BEFORE ANYONE ELSE DOES!



MEANWHILE, AS SOCIAL WORKER HENRY LATHAM IS ON HIS WAY TO THE BANK...

AT THAT MOMENT, THE WIND WHIPS BATMAN'S MISSING CLOAK ABOUT A STANCHION

LIKE A SCARECROW FRIGHTENING AWAY THIEVING CROWS, BATMAN'S FLAPPING CLOAK SCARES THE HUMAN CROWS!

UH... BANDITS! PLEASE.. DON'T TAKE THIS MONEY! IT'S THE FUND I RAISED FOR CHARITIES!

THAT'S WHY WE'VE WAITIN' FOR YA! HAND IT OVER!

AT THE OTHER END OF THE SHADOWY ALLEY...

YI-I-I! **BATMAN!** HE'S AFTER US! LET'S GET OUTA HERE!



AND SO, WITHOUT BATMAN WEARING IT, HIS CLOAK HAS STOPPED A CRIME!

AFTERWARD, ONE BLOCK AWAY FROM THE ALLEY, GRATEFUL LATHAM COMES UPON THE DYNAMIC DUO!

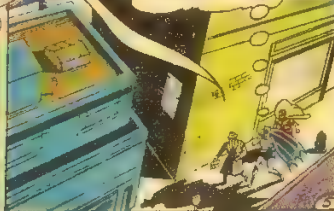
AT THE ALLEY, THE SIGNPOST TELLS BATMAN WHAT HE NEEDS TO KNOW...

BATMAN, I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR RESCUING ME AT THE ALLEY!

ME? BUT I JUST GOT HERE! UNLESS! QUICK-- WHERE'S THE ALLEY YOU THOUGHT YOU SAW ME AT?

I SAW YOU-- STANDING THERE!

IT'S OBVIOUS! THE WIND BLEW THE CLOAK OVER THAT STANCHION! BUT THE CLOAK'S DISAPPEARED AGAIN! WHAT HAPPENED TO IT?





BATMAN

ONLY MOMENTS BEFORE, AS FIRE ENGINES SPED THROUGH GOTHAM CITY, A MAN HAD STEPPED INTO THAT VERY ALLEY...

AND SO AT LAST IT HAPPENED! THE CLOAK REVEALED ITS VITAL SECRET TO ANOTHER EYE!

I'LL PUT THE CASE BACK FOR THE MOMENT--UNTIL I COME BACK FROM THAT FRO!

TROUBLE NEARBY! I'D BETTER SAY, THAT LOOKS LIKE BATMAN'S CLOAK!

IT SAYS THAT BATMAN IS REALLY BRUCE WAYNE! THE UNDERWORLD WOULD PAY PLenty TO KNOW THAT.

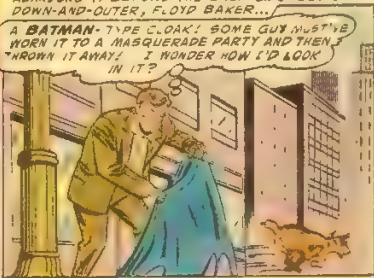
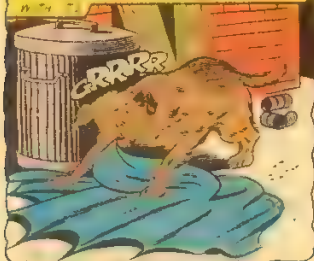


READERS! CAN YOU GUESS WHO THIS MAN IS?

BUT JUST AS THE MAN LEFT THE ALLEY, A FRISKY DOG TUGGED THE CLOAK FROM ITS HIDING PLACE AND BEGAN PLAYING WITH IT.

AND NOW, TIRING OF HIS TOY, THE RESTLESS DOG ABANDONS IT BEFORE THE SHUFFLING FEET OF DOWN-AND-OUTER, FLOYD BAKER...

A BATMAN-TYPE CLOAK! SOME GUY MUST'VE WORN IT TO A MASQUERADE PARTY AND THEN THROWN IT AWAY! I WONDER HOW I'D LOOK IN IT?

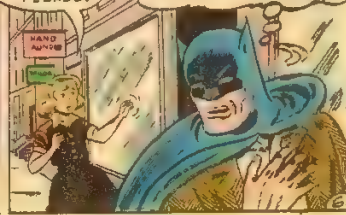


BATMAN! I WISH I HAD HIS NERVES--THEN I'D NEVER BE SCARED OF HEIGHTS AGAIN-- THEN I WOULDN'T BE ON SKID ROW--TRYING TO FORGET I WAS ONCE A PILOT WHO LOST HIS NERVE AFTER ONE CRACK-UP!

SUDDENLY, A TROUBLED VOICE INTRUDES...

PLEASE, BATMAN! I NEED HELP, BATMAN... RIGHT AWAY! PLEASE.

THE KID THINKS I'M BATMAN! I HATE TO TELL HER THAT I'M NOT! IT'D BE LIKE TELLING HER THERE'S NO SANTA CLAUS!





BATMAN



IT'S MY KITTEN, DUSTY! SHE'S OUT ON THAT LEDGE! BUT YOU CAN GET HER FOR ME, **BATMAN**-- YOU CAN DO ANYTHING!

I CAN'T LET THE KID DOWN NOW! I'LL TRY--SCARED AS I AM, I'LL TRY!

BEADS OF SWEAT BREAK OUT ON THE EX-PILOT'S FACE AS HE STEPS OUT ON THE NARROW LEDGE.. NOTHING BETWEEN ME AND THE SIDEWALK! I FEEL PARALYZED--CAN'T MOVE--BUT I'VE GOT TO-- I'VE GOT TO...

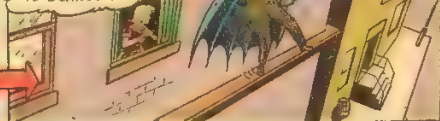
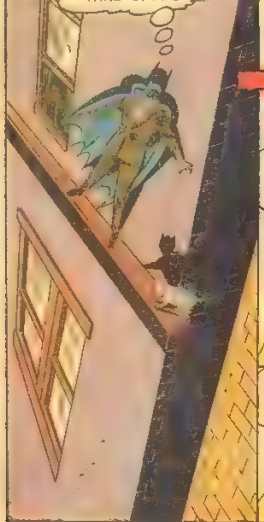


INCH BY INCH, BAKER FIGHTS THE LEDGE, AND HIS OWN SCREAMING NERVES.. IT'S LIKE THE TIME I TRIED TO FLY AGAIN--AFTER I GOT OUT OF THE HOSPITAL-- I WAS AFRAID--AFRAID TO TAKE OFF...

BUT SOMEHOW, BAKER REACHES THE KITTEN AND BEGINS HIS TORTUROUS WAY BACK...

AS LONG AS I'M WEARING THIS CLOAK, I'VE GOT TO ACT LIKE **BATMAN**! I CAN'T LET THAT KID THINK HER HERO IS SCARED!

IT'S LIKE THE TIME I TRIED TO FLY AGAIN--AFTER I GOT OUT OF THE HOSPITAL-- I WAS AFRAID--AFRAID TO TAKE OFF...



THEN, SUDDENLY IT'S ALL OVER...THE FIGHT, THE FEARS...

OH, **BATMAN**! YOU'RE THE BRAVEST MAN IN THE WHOLE, WHOLE WORLD.

I MADE IT-- I MADE IT! I'M CURED! I'LL NEVER BE SCARED AGAIN--AND ALL BECAUSE I WORE THIS CLOAK!



MOMENTS LATER, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** REACH THAT VERY NEIGHBORHOOD...

OH, **BATMAN**-- YOU CAME BACK--AND THIS TIME YOU PUT ON YOUR WHOLE UNIFORM!

AT LAST! THIS CHILD CAN GIVE US A DEFINITE LEAD! WITH LUCK, I MAY BE ABLE TO GET MY CLOAK BACK BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!



BUT IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE-- FOR **BATMAN** IS UNAWARE THAT ONE MAN HAS READ THE VITAL NOTE IN THE COWL! (7)

FOLLOWING THE CHILD'S DIRECTIONS, BATMAN TURNS A CORNER-- JUST TOO LATE...

HE'S LOOKING INSIDE THE COWL! IT'S NO USE NOW, ROBIN! MY BATMAN CAREER IS FINISHED!



THAT'S MY CLOAK! YOU-- YOU SAW THE PAPER INSIDE THE COWL, DIDN'T YOU...



PAPER? OH, SURE! HERE, BATMAN! YOU DON'T KNOW IT, BUT BECAUSE OF YOUR CLOAK I CAN FLY AGAIN! SO LONG-- AND THANKS!

PUZZLED BY BAKER'S INDIFFERENCE TO THE PAPER, BATMAN LOOKS INSIDE THE COWL-- AND GETS A SHOCK!

THE WRITING'S DISAPPEARED!

IT'S BLANK NOW-- BUT IT WASN'T WHEN I FIRST LOOKED AT IT IN THE ALLEY!



CLARK KENT!

SUPERMAN!



"I HAD COME TO GOTHAM CITY TO HELP FIGHT FIRES CAUSED BY HURRICANE HANNAH... AND AS I STEPPED INTO THE ALLEY TO SWITCH TO MY SUPERMAN IDENTITY, I FOUND YOUR CLOAK..."



BEFORE I GO, I'D BETTER DESTROY THIS WRITING WITH MY X-RAY VISION!

WELL-- THANKS TO YOU MY SECRET IDENTITY IS STILL A SECRET! THANKS AGAIN, CLARK!

WE DUAL-IDENTITY CHARACTERS HAVE TO PROTECT EACH OTHER, DON'T WE?



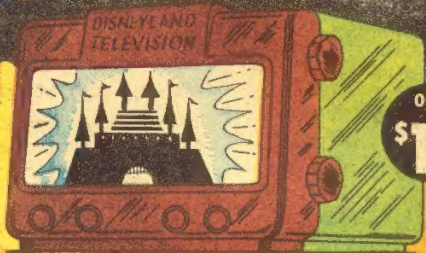
AND SO, BATMAN'S CLOAK HAS COME HOME-- A LITTLE WORN, A LITTLE SOILED, BUT BECAUSE OF IT, THE LIVES OF THREE MEN ARE ENRICHED...



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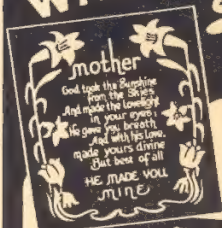
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